

US Army Corps of Engineers® Albuquerque District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Permit Application No.: SPA-2009-00021-ABQ

Project Name: Angel Fire PID Utility Infrastructure
Applicant: Angel Fire PID, Village of Angel Fire
Waterway: Various tributaries to Cieneguilla

Creek

Public Notice Date: July 27, 2009 Comment Due Date: August 27, 2009 CE Contact Phone: 505-342-3280

Reply To:

Regulatory Division US Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District 4101 Jefferson Plaza, NE Albuquerque, NM 87109-3435

PERMIT APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 404 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT (33 USC 1344)

<u>Summary of Proposed Project</u>: We are requesting public comment on the following project before the above comment due date. The application is for a permit to place/discharge dredged and/or fill material as part of the Angel Fire Public Improvement District (PID) in various tributaries to Cieneguilla Creek in the Village of Angel Fire (village), Colfax County, New Mexico. The proposed project is to conduct road and utility line improvements and initial installations (in some locations) of the same. Approximately 0.18-acre of waters of the U.S. would be filled as part of the road improvements and utility installation. Details of the proposed project are provided below.

Name of Applicant:

Melissa Byrne Vossmer

Village of Angel Fire

3388 Mountain View Blvd.

Angel Fire, NM 87710

James L. Lebus

Angel Fire PID

3465 Mountain View Blvd., Suite 14

Angel Fire, NM 87710

<u>Location</u>: The project is located in various tributaries to Cieneguilla Creek in the Village of Angel Fire, Colfax County, New Mexico (36.38564 N Latitude, -105.29537 W Longitude).

Description of Work: The following list details the proposed improvements:

 Road Work. Road work would involve improving the existing dirt roads (i.e., unimproved roads) through grading, road bed preparation, shaping for drainage, and installation of gravel or crushed rock base course. New culverts may also be needed. The standard roadway design alternative consists of two,10-foot (ft) wide driving

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CESPA-RD SPA-2009-0012-ABQ lanes, two, 2-ft wide shoulders, and two, 8-ft wide outslopes. Preferred roadway design alternatives at certain sites would narrow the 8-ft outslopes.

- Water and Sewer Lines. Water lines would be 6-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC), including valves, fire hydrants, service connections, pumps, and water tanks as appropriate. Sanitary sewer lines would be 8-inch PVC, including prefabricated high density polyethylene (HDPE) manholes, service connections, and lift stations, as appropriate. The sewer main will follow the centerline of the proposed 24-ft wide roadway surface; the water main will be offset from the sewer a minimum of 10-ft to comply with New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) construction requirements. This means that the water main will be installed within the 2-ft shoulder outside of the 10-ft wide travel lane. Fire hydrants will be spaced at 400-ft intervals at the edge of the 60-ft wide right-of-way.
- Drainage Swale and Culverts. A continuous roadside ditch will be constructed in cut sections of the roadway to collect and convey runoff from the road surface. Crossing culverts are proposed at approximately 2000-ft intervals to carry concentrated flows to the downhill side of the roadway section. Particular care has been taken to prevent concentrating flows into receiving waters.

Location and Distribution of Improvements. All subdivision units will receive roadway, water, electric, and communication service improvements. Only the Angel Fire West Village and Country Club Unit 1 will receive sewer system infrastructure. The remaining subdivisions will continue to use septic service as development ensues.

The total area of proposed fill in waters of the U.S. is 0.18-acre, of which 0.04-acre would be temporary, and 0.14-acre would be permanent fill. The overall project is anticipated to begin July, 2009. Fill within waters of the United States is expected to begin October 2009 and be completed in November 2010.

<u>Purpose and Need</u>: The Corps has determined the basic project purpose to be to provide transportation and utility improvements; not a water-dependent activity. The overall project purpose is to provide roadway and utility improvements within the Angel Fire PID subdivisions where such features/services are lacking, or need improvement. If a project is not water-dependent (i.e., must be constructed within waters in order to fulfill the basic project purpose), then the applicant is required to rebut the presumption there is an alternative that would not impact special aquatic sites (wetlands).

<u>Related Work</u>: The project description above includes both work proposed both within waters of the United States, as well as within uplands.

<u>Mitigation</u>: The applicants have proposed a preferred alternative that would minimize impacts to waters of the United States by approximately 0.14-acre of permanent impact by reduction of roadway and utility footprint from existing standard design practices and Village requirements. A mitigation ratio (in-kind replacement to loss) of 2:1 is proposed for this project. Since a total of 0.14-acre of waters will be lost, this means that 0.28-acre must be restored. The following is a summary of the proposed actions to mitigate for the loss of wetlands associated with the preferred alternative.

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Two sites have been selected as potential locations for wetland creation. Site plans have been created for Woodland Drive and Valle Grande Trail South Elk (see attached engineering drawings with the corresponding site names).

<u>Plans and Data</u>: Drawings showing the location of the work site and other data are enclosed with this notice. If additional information is desired, it may be obtained from the applicant, or from:

Deanna L. Cummings Regulatory Division Albuquerque District, Corps of Engineers 4101 Jefferson Plaza, NE Albuquerque, NM 87109-3435 505-342-3280 Fax No. 505-342-3498

Statement of Findings: The District Engineer has consulted the National Register of Historic Places and no properties listed in the Register are present at the site of the proposed construction. Consultation with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office (NMSHPO) has not revealed any pending nominations. This constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer. It is possible, however, that presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historic data may be inadvertently lost or destroyed by the work accomplished under the requested permit. In the event that cultural resources are found, the SHPO will be contacted for advice on the appropriate action to be taken.

Our preliminary review indicates this project would not impact any federally-listed as threatened or endangered species or critical habitat. The proposed project may impact state-listed species of concern, however, and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish has been notified and requested to comment on the project design.

The applicant has applied to the New Mexico Environment Department for certification that this work is in compliance with applicable State water quality standards. The applicant is responsible for obtaining all other required Federal, state, and local authorizations for this work.

Comment: Any comments concerning this project should be received by the District Engineer no later than August 27, 2009. Comments received after the end of the Public Notice comment period will not be considered. However, more time may be given if a request, with a valid reason, is received prior to the suspense date. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed below. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

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CESPA-RD SPA-2009-0012-ABQ The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The evaluation of the impact of this activity will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act. All factors relevant to the proposal and the cumulative effects will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

At the request of the Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management Preparedness, State Coordinator, we are sending a copy of this notice to the local flood plain administrator to apprise the administrator of proposed development within their jurisdiction. In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management Regulations Criteria for Land Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. The local Flood Plain Administrator is required to perform this review for all proposed development and maintain records of such review. You may contact:

Department of Public Safety State Floodplain Coordinator Attn: Mr. Bill Borthwick

email: wborthwick@dps.state.nm.us

Phone: 505-476-9617

If the District Engineer determines that the project complies with the 404(b)(1) guidelines, she will grant the permit unless issuance would be contrary to the public interest.

Any person may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted, in writing, to the District Engineer within 21 days of the date of this notice and must clearly set forth the reasons for holding a public hearing.

A copy of this public notice, with large-format, 11x17-inch drawings, is available for viewing in the Angel Fire PID offices.

Kimberly M. Colloton Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army District Commander

Enclosure

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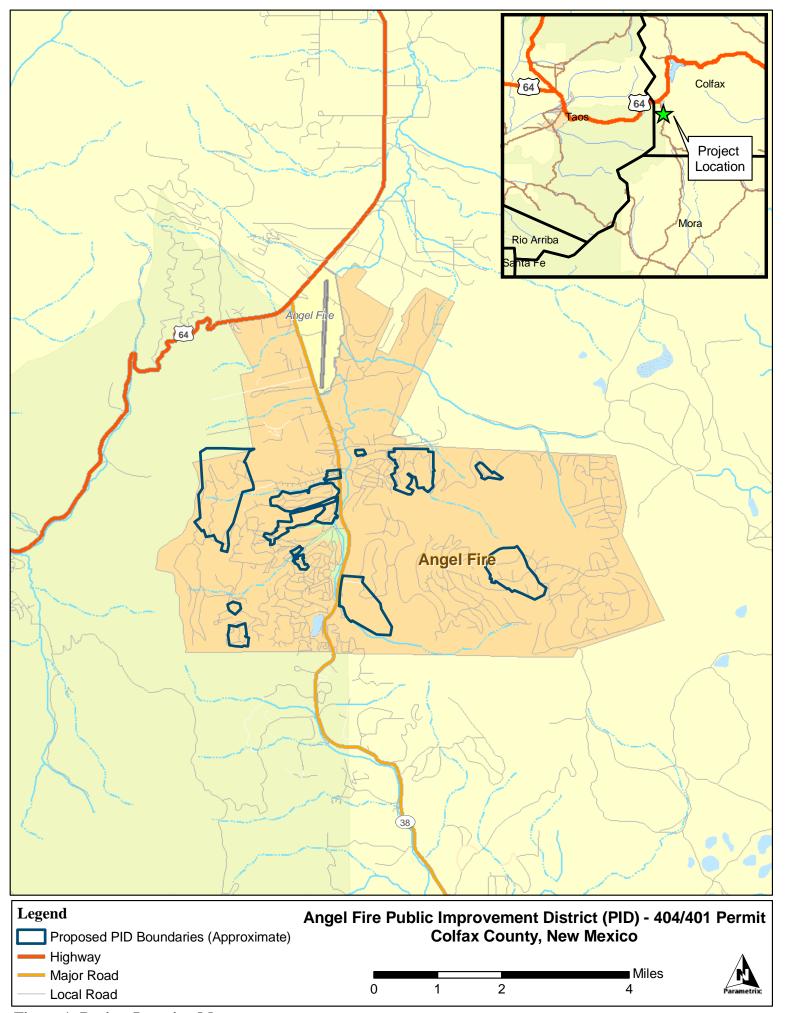
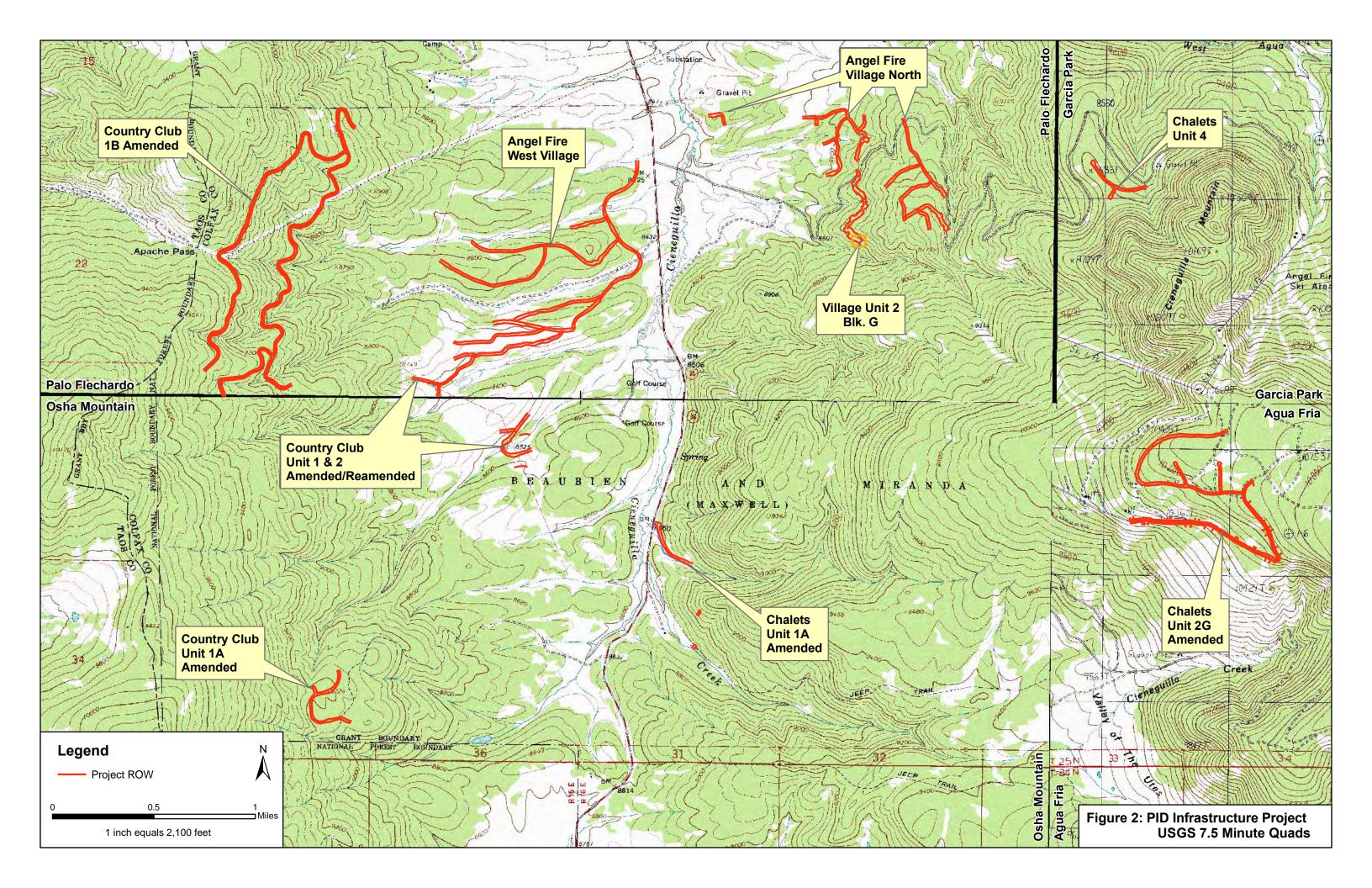
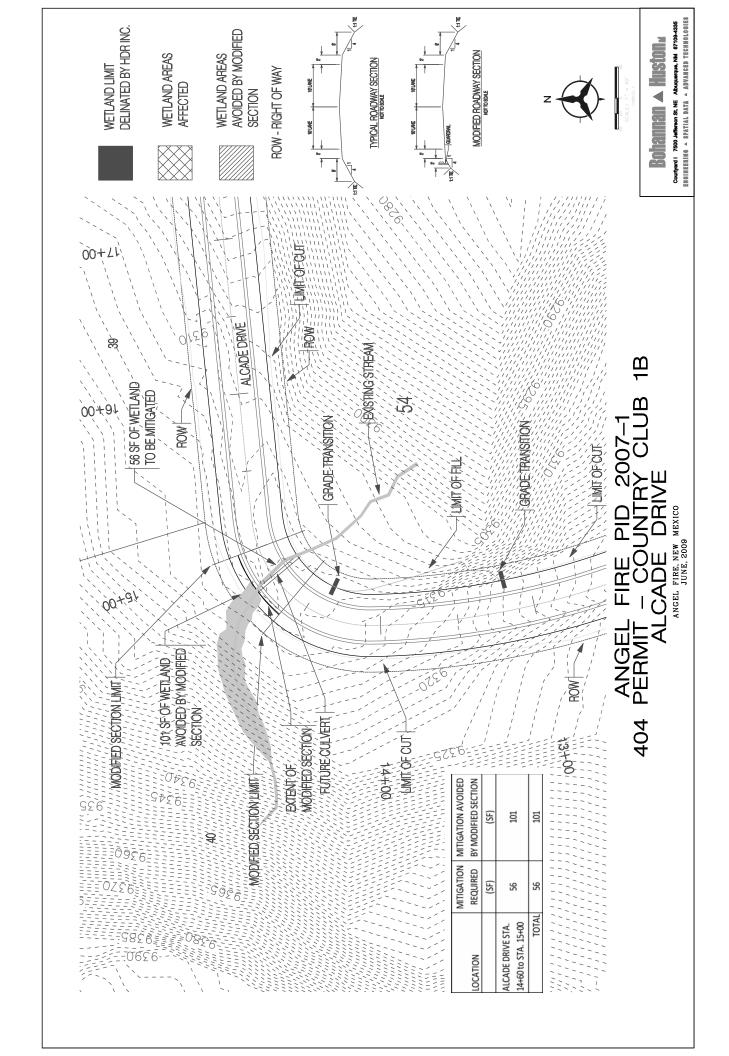
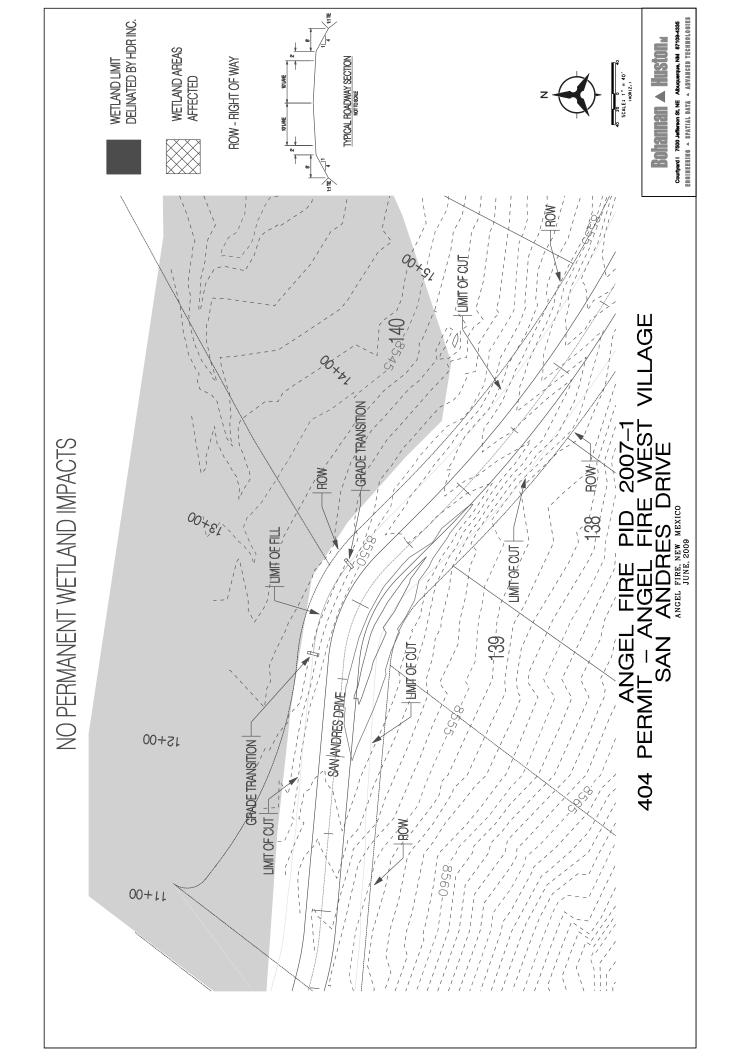
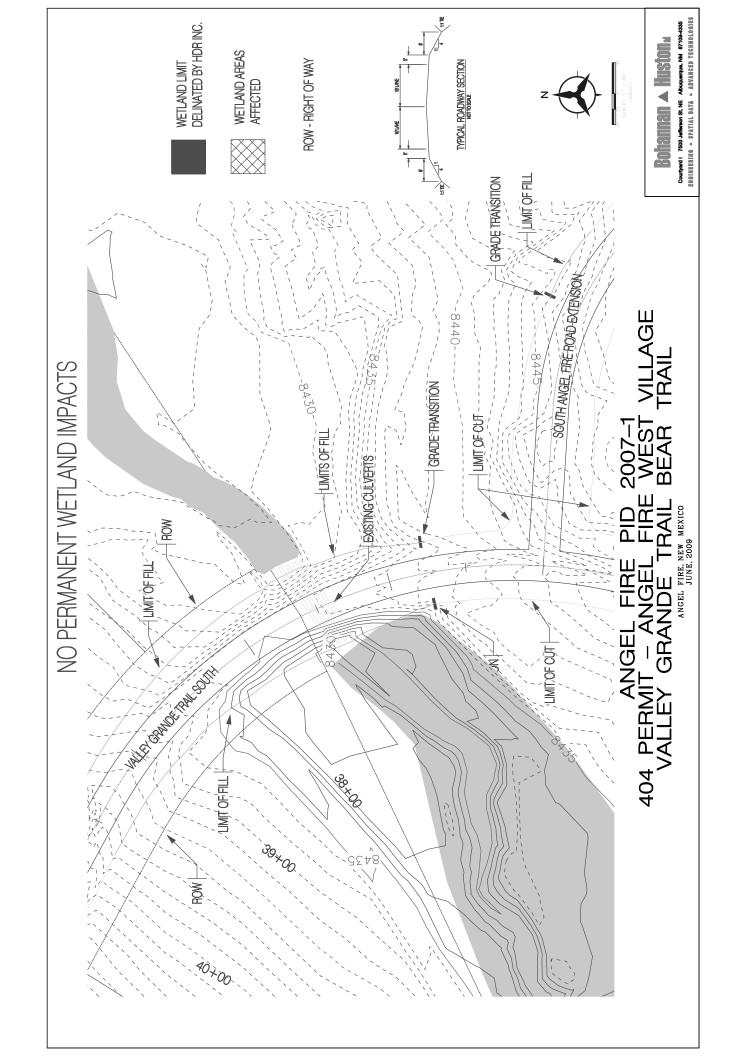


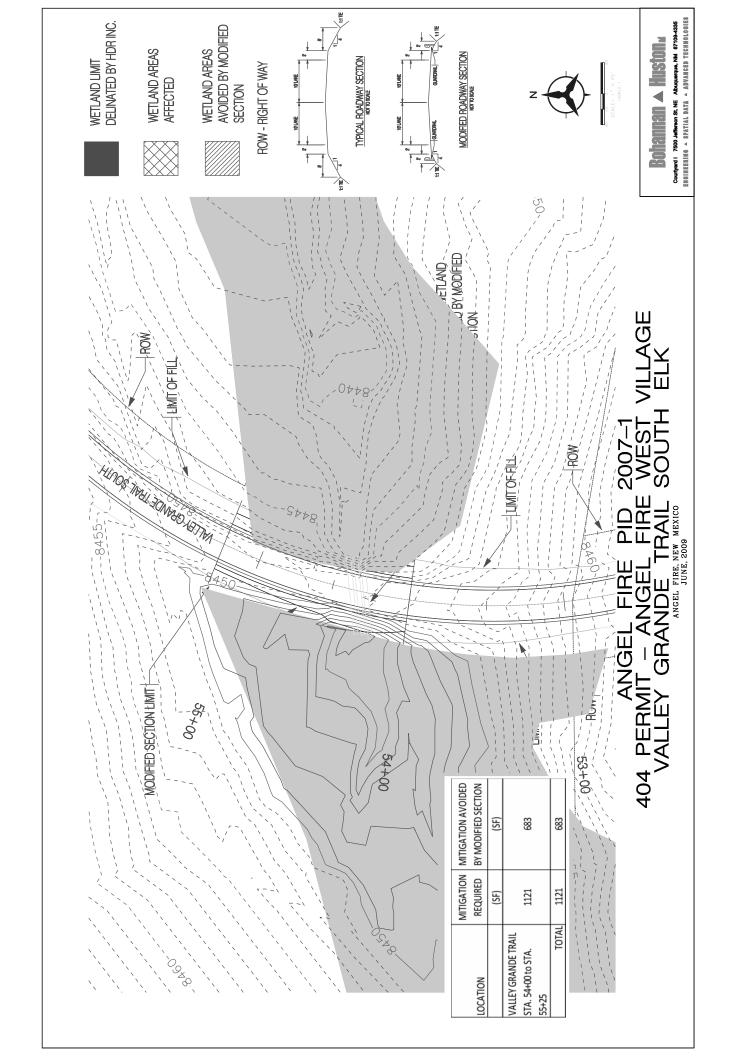
Figure 1: Project Location Map

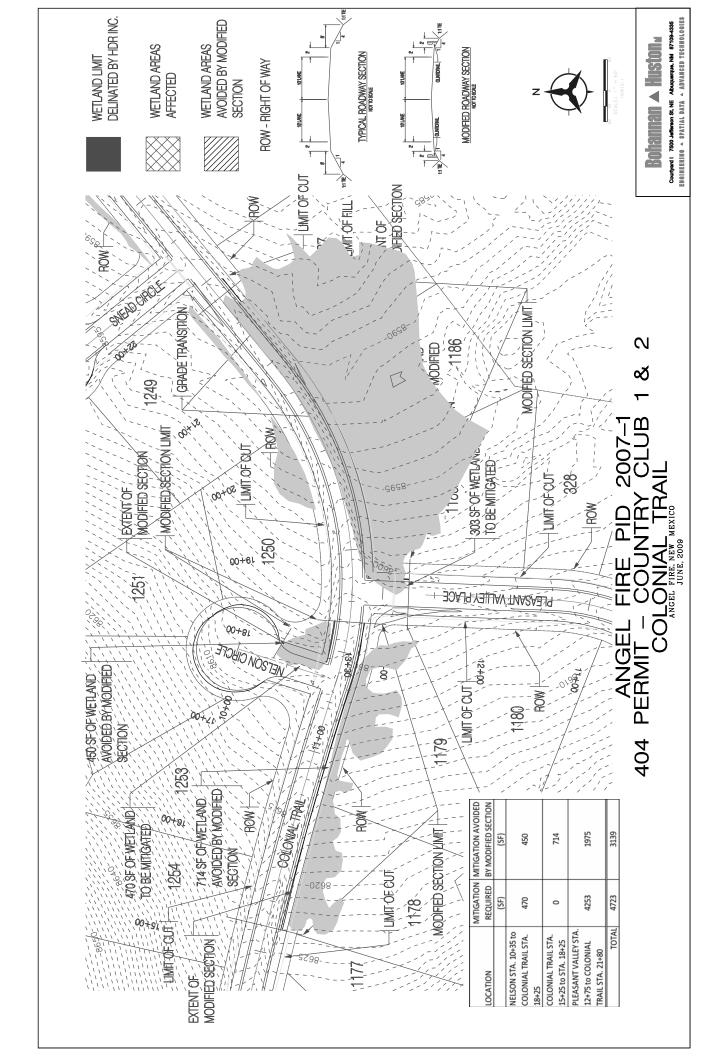


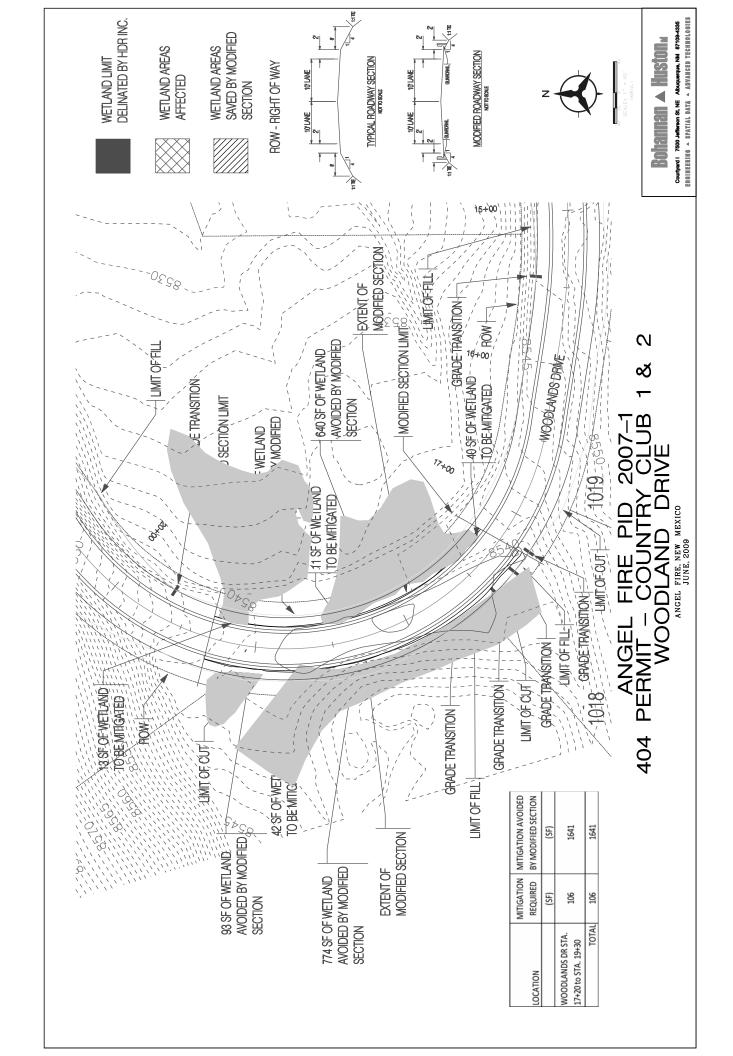


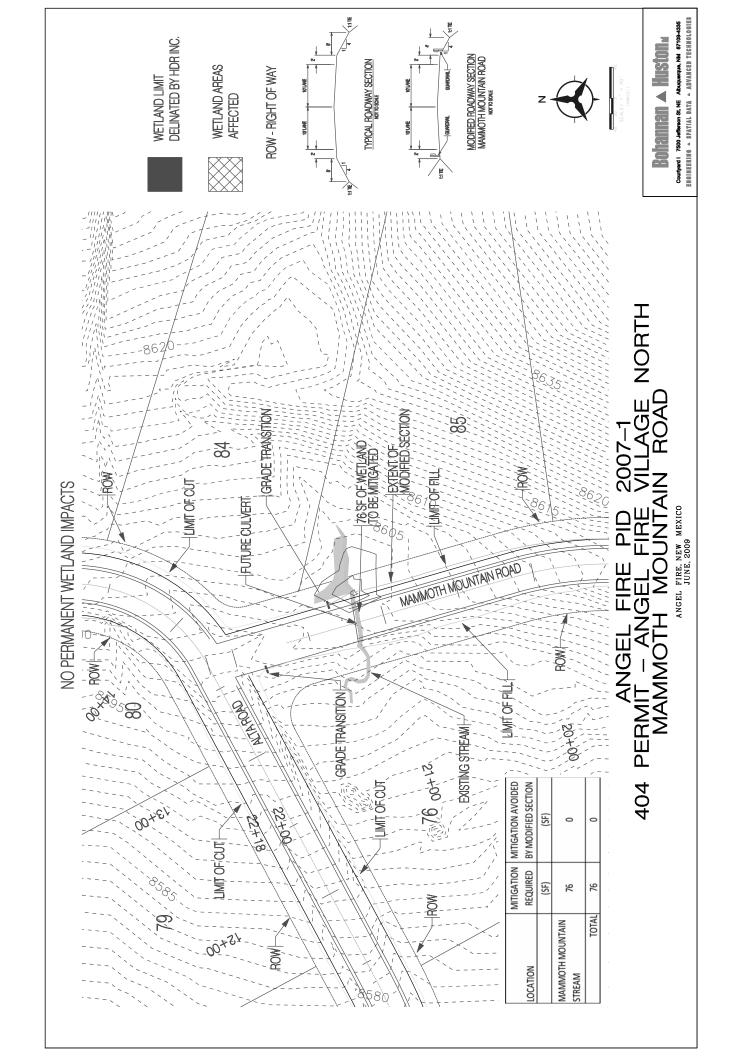


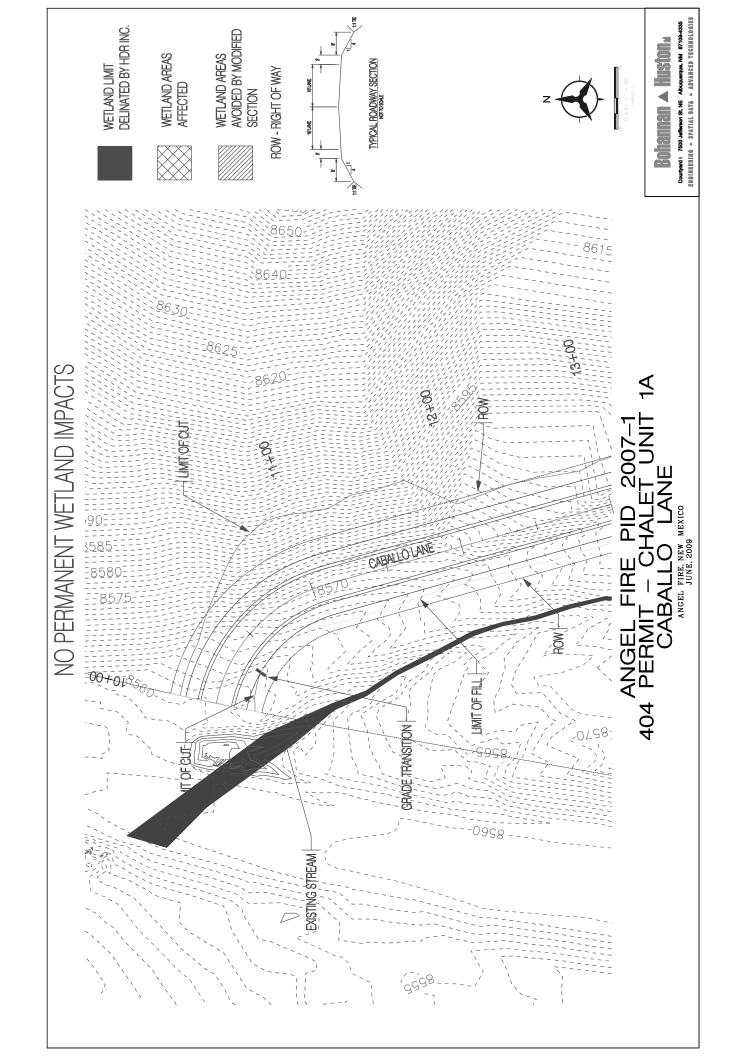




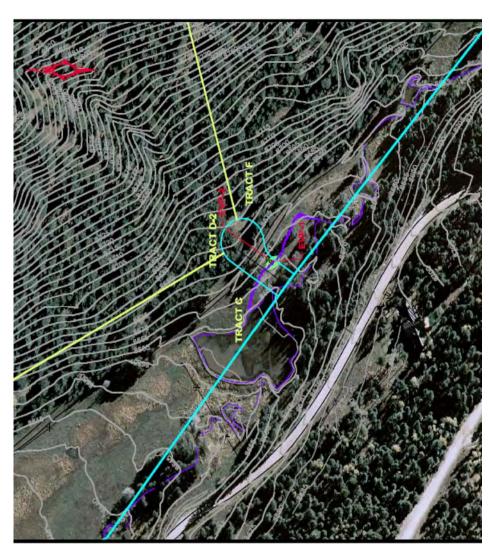








ALTERNATIVE ALIGNMENT PROPOSED PERMIT COVERAGE NOT ANTICIPATED



ANGEL FIRE PID 2007–1 404 PERMIT – CHALET UNIT 1A EL VADO PLACE

ANGEL FIRE, NEW MEXICO JUNE, 2009



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